

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 18656 051048Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 DLOS-09 STR-05 AGRE-00
AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07
NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 L-03 H-01
NSC-05 /102 W
-----055573 051306Z /53

R 051005Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3319
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
CINCPAC HONOLULU

CONFIDENTIAL TOKYO 18656

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PLOS, EFIS, ETRD, JA, NZ
SUBJECT: CURRENT STATUS OF JAPAN'S TRADE/FISHING PROBLEMS WITH
NEW ZEALAND

REF: A. WELLINGTON 5333; B. TOKYO 16855

1. TOKYO'S SILENCE IN RESPONSE TO DEPUTY PM TALBOYS'
ENTREATIES FOR GREATER ACCESS TO JAPANESE MARKET (REF A)
BASICALLY REFLECTS DIFFICULTY GOJ FACES IN MAKING CONCESSIONS
ON IMPORTATION OF DAIRY PRODUCTS. EMBOFF SPOKE TO FONOFF
OCEANIA DIVISION DEPDIR TANAKA DECEMBER 1, WHO EXPLAINED
THAT INITIAL GOJ RETICENCE FOLLOWING TALBOYS' OCTOBER
18-25 TOKYO VISIT WAS CAUSED BY UNWILLINGNESS OF MINISTRY
OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY (MAF) TO BUDGE FROM POSITION
MAINTAINED DURING TALBOYS' VISIT. IN MEANTIME, MAF HAD
BEGUN PLANNING FOR HIGH-LEVEL FISHERIES MISSION TO SOUTH
PACIFIC COUNTRIES, INCLUDING NEW ZEALAND, BUT PM FUKUDA
SUFFLED CABINET BEFORE MISSION EVER GOT STARTED.
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AS TANAKA EXPLAINED, NEW CABINET NOW ALMOST TOTALLY
OCCUPIED WITH US-JAPAN ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, AND HAS
LITTLE TIME FOR NEW ZEALAND. HOWEVER, TANAKA HOPED
GOJ WOULD BE ABLE TO COME UP WITH NEGOTIATING
POSITION BY JANUARY, SINCE WITH NEW ZEALAND FISHERIES
ZONE TO GO INTO EFFECT APRIL 1 TIME WAS RUNNING OUT.

2. MAF PLANNING DIVDIR NAKASA TOLD EMBOFFS DECEMBER 2 THAT IN LIGHT OF RECENT CABINET RESHUFFLE, IT WAS MUCH TOO EARLY TO ESTIMATE MAF POSITION ON NEW ZEALAND DEMANDS. NAKASE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT MILK SUPPLY IN JAPAN THIS YEAR GREATER THAN DEMAND, AS REFLECTED IN CURRENT STAGNANT MILK PRICE. THIS SITUATION, HE STATED, MADE IT EVEN MORE DIFFICULT FOR GOJ TO ACCEPT NEW ZEALAND'S REQUESTS.

3. COMMENT: POLITICAL EQUATION REGARDING NEW ZEALAND ACCESS TO JAPAN MARKET HAS NOT CHANGED SINCE FAILURE OF TALBOYS' MISSION. NEW ZEALAND ALONE HAS LITTLE LEVERAGE TO INDUCE JAPAN TO OPEN UP ITS MARKET TO DAIRY IMPORTS, AND AS NAKASE NOTED, IT WAS STILL JAPANESE POLICY TO SEEK SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN MOST AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. FONOFF UNDERSTANDABLY RELUCTANT TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH NEW ZEALAND ON FISHERIES KNOWING GOJ IS PREPARED TO OFFER SO LITTLE IN RETURN ON AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS, BUT THIS NONETHELESS APPEARS TO BE WHAT WILL HAPPEN. PROBABILITY THUS REMAINS HIGH THAT JAPANESE WILL BE BARRED FROM NEW ZEALAND FISHERIES ZONE.
MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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